GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:429
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2007
SHORTAGE OF STAFF IN IT DEPARTMENT
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Chandrappan Shri C.K.

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Income Tax Department has been facing acute shortage of staff, though the number of assessees and tax collection have increased;

(b) if so, the details of the sanctioned staff strength and vacant posts in different categories in the Department particuiarly the Metropolitan City offices as on March 31, 2004 and March 31, 2007;

(c) the number of assessees and the amount of direct tax collected as on March 31,2004 and March 31, 2007 giving the percentage change during the period;

(d) the reasons for not filling up the vacant posts and not increasing the staff strength when the volume of work and tax collection have increased over the said period; and

(e) the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

FINANCE MINISTER (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No.429 for 4th May. 2007 regarding shortage of staff in IT. Department:

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are given in the Statement at Annexure A.

(c)

	No. of Assessees	Direct Tax collection
31.03.2004	3,01.78.616	Rs. 1,05,088 Crores
31.03.2007 (Provisional)	3,19,25,822	Rs.2,29,505Crores
% change	5.79	118.39

(d) & (e) Government of India`s policy to limit direct recruitment to 1/3 of total direct recruitment vacancies in a year, subject to 1% of total sanction of staff strength, which was applied to the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), had restricted direct recruitment to the various cadres. In 2005, while considering the request of CBDT for exemption from the above Policy, the Committee of Secretaries, allowed CBDT to fill up 3300 direct recruitment vacancies pending assessment of the staff requirement vis-avis the workload. After assessing the staff requirement, CBDT approached the Cabinet for sanction of additional posts and the Cabinet, in November, 2006 approved, creation of 7051 posts in various cadres including 6519 posts in staff category. These posts are to be filled up in a phased mariner, within a period of three years. Staff Selection Commission has initiated the process of recruitment of Income Tax Inspectors, Tax Assistant and Stenographers and the staff are expected to be made availabie latest by the end of this year. The surplus staff nominated by DOPT from the Surplus Cell have already been allocated to various charges. These steps would meet partially the requirement of staff of CBDT.